

City of West Lafayette, Indiana
Board of Public Works and Safety
MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

8:30 a.m.

Morton Community Center
Multi-Purpose Room

Members present were Sana G. Booker, Bradley W. Marley, Tanuja R. Sheth, and Jonathan C. Speaker. Mayor Dennis presided.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. September 16, 2014, Meeting

Mr. Marley moved to accept the minutes of the September 16, 2014, Board of Works meeting. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Agreement: Retainage Escrow – 2014 Wastewater Treatment Plant Projects – Layne Heavy Civil, Inc. and Lafayette Bank & Trust Co. – WWTU

WWTU Director Henderson requested approval of an agreement with Layne Heavy Civil, Inc. and Lafayette Bank & Trust Co. for retainage escrow. He explained that this would handle the 10% retainage for any problems that may arise during the 2014 Wastewater Treatment Plant projects. He noted that Layne Heavy Civil has been very easy to work with.

Mr. Marley moved that the retainage escrow agreement be approved. Ms. Booker seconded the motion.

At the request of Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes, Director Henderson reviewed the projects. He explained that the phosphorus removal portion of the project is to bring the plant into compliance with new limits set by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). The wet weather facility improvements portion of the project is part of the long-term control plan and includes a secondary application point for bleach to meet E. Coli limits consistently.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes noted that the wet weather facility project is being paid out of the Improvement Fund and the phosphorus removal project is being paid by the 2014 sewage utility bonds.

Director Henderson stated that though there are two different funding sources, bidding on the two projects together allowed for a better price.

The motion was adopted.

b. Memorandum of Agreement – Mural for Main Post Office – Development

Councilor Burch requested approval of a memorandum of agreement for a mural on the east wall of the main Post Office. She explained that the Public Arts Team has been

working on this project for several years to get permission from the US Post Office to paint a mural there. She explained that the agreement says that the City will do the artwork, it will be appropriate to the Post Office, and the City has the funds to maintain it.

Ms. Booker moved that the memorandum of agreement for the mural at the Post Office be approved. Mr. Marley seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

c. Policy Approval: #3.01 Complaints Against Employees/Misconduct – Police

Police Chief Dombkowski requested approval for Police Policy #3.01, and he described how complaints against employees would be handled.

Mr. Marley moved that Police Policy #3.01 be approved. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

d. Policy Approval: #3.06 Uniform Standards/Additional Equipment – Police

Chief Dombkowski requested approval for Police Policy #3.06, explaining that it has minor tweaks to the uniform standards, including that long sleeves must be worn during certain times of the year.

Ms. Booker moved that Police Policy #3.06 be approved. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

e. Policy Approval: #4.16 Body-Worn Cameras – Police

Chief Dombkowski requested approval for Police Policy #4.16, for body-worn cameras. He explained that the Department has been researching for this project for some time and last fall he did a project on the topic for graduate school. The Officers have been testing different cameras and data storage options and the Department has decided on Viewu cameras. He noted that this is a new concept in the US, but it has been well accepted in Europe and Canada for over a decade.

Mayor Dennis spoke about the improved accountability the cameras will provide, and he complimented the Police Department for being leaders in Tippecanoe County for being leaders in this area. He stated that it is not intended to be Big Brother, but a tool to keep the playing field even.

Chief Dombkowski stated that the cameras will provide accurate event documentation and the Department has already seen some benefits during the testing period. He noted that many people have cameras on their cell phones and the Officers are already aware of the fact that video may be rolling during every call. It is an extension of the car cameras and technology moving forward.

Ms. Booker stated that she had a complaint from a Purdue student recently and the Police Department was able to show her video of the incident. She saw that the complaint was unfounded.

Officer Wiete demonstrated how the camera works while attached to his uniform.

In response to a question from Mayor Dennis, Chief Dombkowski explained the situations when the camera is to be used. He noted that if an officer fails to record then they must document the reason.

Mr. Speaker moved that Police Policy #4.16 be approved. Ms. Booker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

f. Hire: IT Systems Administrator – Tracey Stanifer – IT

Facilities Director Clark requested approval to hire Tracey Stanifer as an IT Systems Administrator effective October 1, 2014, with a bi-weekly salary of \$1,807.70. He noted that Ms. Stanifer brings 16 years of experience in working for city government from the City of Lafayette.

Mr. Marley moved that the hire of Tracey Stanifer be approved. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

g. Request for Quotes: Subdivision Sidewalk Repairs – Engineering

Public Works Director Buck requested approval of a quote package for the Subdivision Sidewalk Repairs project. He stated that last year repairs were done to sidewalk trip hazards using a saw cutting method. During that project areas were identified that were too large to saw cut, and this project would repair those locations.

Mr. Marley moved that the request for quotes for the Subdivision Sidewalk Repairs project be approved. Ms. Booker seconded the motion.

The motion was adopted.

h. Claims

i. AP Docket	\$433,400.85
ii. PR Docket	\$388,496.20
iii. PR Docket	\$226,533.28

Mr. Marley moved that the claims be approved. Mr. Speaker seconded the motion.

There were no questions or comments about the claims.

The motion was adopted.

i. Informational Items

i. Project Payment List – WWTU

There were no questions or comments about the listing.

ii. Legal Budget & Expenses – Clerk-Treasurer

There were no questions or comments about the listing.

iii. Park Board Dockets

There were no questions or comments about the listing.

j. Other Items

► Street Commissioner Payne reported that the fall leaf schedule is available.

► Director Buck reported on construction projects, including that they are working closely with the utilities to complete relocations. Work on railings, the median, and fencing is continuing on Northwestern Avenue.

► Betina Cochran, Assistant to the Mayor, reported that the Mayor's Office is now located in the Morton Center.

► Chief Dombkowski reported that the football weekend was successful with only two arrests. He stated that the student population is doing what they have been asked and the breakfast clubs are well-attended. There is another home game this coming weekend with a parade.

► James Fenn (3000 Wilshire Avenue) spoke as a resident of the Avondale neighborhood. He expressed concerns about the construction on Cumberland Avenue. He described the difficulty that residents have in entering and exiting the neighborhood, the road conditions, heavy equipment left at the site, and the lighting at night. He stated that it is questionable if a hook and ladder fire truck or other emergency vehicles can get into the neighborhood. He stated that he feels the situation could be helped by taking out 6 shrubs on Covington Street which separate the Avondale neighborhood from the University Farms neighborhood to allow access through there. He stated that Public Works Director Buck had indicated to him that not enough people would support removing that separation. Mr. Fenn presented a petition signed by 40 people in the Avondale neighborhood who want Covington opened, and he noted that this was 90% of the neighborhood. He stated that originally Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes' husband signed the petition, but for an unknown reason had to be removed, and Board member Sana Booker has signed it. Mr. Fenn noted that a majority of the neighborhood wants the section closed off again after construction is complete, which will not be until a year from now. Mr. Fenn stated that he has been told it would cost \$20,000 to do this, but he believes it could be done for less.

Ms. Booker commented that everything Mr. Fenn said about the construction area is true and it is inconvenient. She expressed concern about driving there at night. She said that although it is true, she is grateful for the work being done as it is to fix the problems that led to her basement flooding one year. She stated that she signed the petition because it was Mr. Fenn that asked, but she will take her name off of it, even though what he said is true.

Clerk-Treasurer Rhodes acknowledged that her husband did sign the petition and then asked to be removed. She stated that the problem was misrepresented as being that Covington would never open. She explained that the opening of Covington was discussed at meetings that included the neighborhood prior to construction, and it is her understanding that opening it if necessary still holds. She stated that she is confident that good construction management practices will be carried out.

Fire Chief Heath stated that he sent a hook and ladder truck to the neighborhood this morning and last Friday. The message he received from Fire Station No. 3 is that the trucks are accessible to that neighborhood. He spoke of how the crew always works well with construction contractors and they are made aware of times of closure. He explained that the construction crew is also aware that when the trucks are coming through with lights and sirens then construction stops and equipment is moved. He

talked about how issues were handled when construction was happening right in front of Fire Station No. 2 and Salisbury Street was closed.

Director Buck stated that the Cumberland Avenue project manager is the same one that worked on Salisbury Street so he is very familiar with the procedures. He noted that the fire trucks have better turning abilities than a school bus and there are school buses on that road multiple times per day. He stated that at meetings with the Avondale neighborhood, the residents were provided with a construction overview, timeline, vision, and plan. During those discussions it was decided to keep Covington closed. Director Buck explained that as construction continues and the lanes are flipped, it will get less messy. Since the project is close to making that flip the benefit to opening Covington is less.

Police Chief Dombkowski noted that the Police Department does have a commander identified as a daily monitor. He explained that Sergeant Marion is out there every day talking to the school and the contractors, and he suggested that she be utilized more with the neighborhood residents as well.

Mayor Dennis asked if in the event that the situation becomes dangerous and public safety vehicles cannot access the area, then the closure will be ripped out.

Director Buck confirmed that it would be.

3. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mayor Dennis adjourned the meeting.